A Celebration of the Life and Home Going for

Mother Naomi M. Mathies Pruitt

Sunrise
December 24, 1926

Sunset
January 2, 2020

Life Reflection Services

Saturday, January 11, 2020, 11:00 AM

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church
684 Juliga Woods Street
Richmond, CA 94804-4156

Reverend Dr. Alvin C. Bernstine, Officiating

Order of Service

Prelude.....Dr. Donnell Thomas

Processional.....Pastor, Clergy, Deacons, Trustees and Family

Invocation.....Minister Demitrius Burnett

Scripture Readings

Old Testament.....Proverbs 31: 24-31.....Reverend Vernola Williams

New Testament.....Romans 10: 1-9.....Minister Ruth Marshall

Prayer of Comfort.....Minister Demitrius Burnett

Musical Selection....."His Eye Is On The Sparrow".....Ms. Janice Maxie-Reid

Acknowledgement of Cards/Condolences.....Mrs. Waldenia Fallins

Resolution(s).....Sister Sandra Overstreet

Musical Selection....."Talk About a Child That Do Love Jesus".....Minister Camille Hudson

Obituary Reading.....Mrs. Clara Lynette Stephens

Appointed Speakers

Sisters of Bethlehem/Witness on Wednesdays.....Sister Erma Burnett

BMBC Divas.....Mother Gloria Dawson

Words of Comfort/Expressions: (2 minutes please).....Family and Friends

Musical Selection....."If You Could See Me Now"..... Minister Camille Hudson

Eulogy.....Reverend Dr. Alvin C. Bernstine

A Glimpse 'Til Glory.....Stewart's Rose Manor Funeral Service

Recessional.....Pastor, Clergy, Pallbearers and Family

Interment

Rolling Hills Memorial Park

4100 Hilltop Drive • Mausoleum

Richmond, California

Repast at Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church—Burnett/Washington Fellowship Hall

Immediately following the committal service

Remembering Mother Pruitt

Mrs. Naomi Mathies Pruitt was born December 24, 1926 to Ezekiel and Willie Mae Mathies in Diboll, Texas. She was baptized at an early age by Reverend Allen in a pond at Shiloh Baptist Church in Diboll. Her early education was in the Diboll school system, she graduated from Diboll High school where she loved to play volleyball.

A Love Story

One summer day in 1941, Miss Naomi and her sister, Hattie Mae, were on their way to the train station to watch the school baseball players off to an out-of-town game when she met a handsome young man—Ennis Pruitt. When the team returned from that game, they started talking—it was on! They married on Christmas Day that same year! They then moved to Oakland, California in 1944 and to Richmond, California in 1947. The Pruitt's were obedient to God's word in Genesis 1:22 "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply..." God blessed them with Ennis Jr. Rickey, Patricia, Deborah and Kenneth.

Mother Pruitt's Faith

In 1948, Mother Pruitt united with Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of the late Pastor Reverend Nathaniel Phanor. She also served under the leadership of the late Pastor Dr. Abraham Henry Newman and current Pastor Revered Dr. Alvin C. Bernstine. Mother Pruitt served in many auxiliaries in the church during her 71 years at Bethlehem: Missionary Society (Dorcas Circle), Usher Board, Decorating Committee, Kitchen Committee, Pastor's Aide Committee and Bethlehem's amazing Divas—the most gracious group of Sweetened Saints this side of Heaven. Mother Pruitt received Bethlehem's 2009 Woman of the Year Certificate of Recognition. Lastly, she was a faithful servant, loved and respected by all in her community of faith.

God Blessed Her Works

Mother Pruitt went to work at the United States Post Office of Camp John T. Knight, as the Oakland Army Base was then known. She later returned to school and went into nursing. She worked 37+ years in nursing at Herrick Hospital, Albany Hospital and Brookside Hospital.

Affiliations

She was civic-minded, a life member with the National Council of Negro Women and the Richmond Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

MeMe's Joy

She found it a joy to have her family gathered around her to "break bread" every Sunday. Her Sunday dinners were always BIG FAMILY AFFAIRS. All her children, grands, great-grands and great-great grands, cousins, nieces, nephews, extended family and friends—everybody came and there was always plenty of food to share. She would sit on her favorite barstool at the kitchen counter, smiling and looking at her family. She was truly a happy and gracious host. She especially enjoyed preparing and or creating dishes for holiday meals, including but not limited to family favorites: Oyster Dressing, Seafood Casserole with many side dishes and trimmings for Thanksgiving; Seafood Gumbo for Christmas dinner, multi-layered ribbon rainbow Jell-O® mold and various desserts for all occasions.

Her Savior Called

Mother Naomi Pruitt answered her Savior's call on January 2, 2020, surrounded by a circle prayer of close family members. Those gone before her were her parents Ezekiel and Willie Mae Mathies; her loving husband, Ennis Pruitt, Sr.; her children Ennis Pruitt, Jr., Rickey Pruitt and Patricia Pruitt Lewis; granddaughter Karen Chiles; great-grandson Larelle Aldridge, Jr.; and nine brothers and sisters.

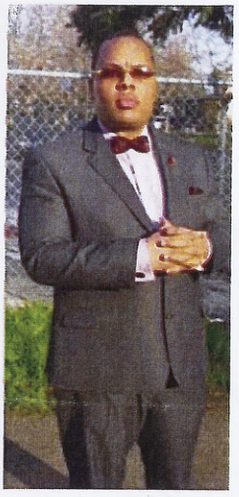
Precious Memories

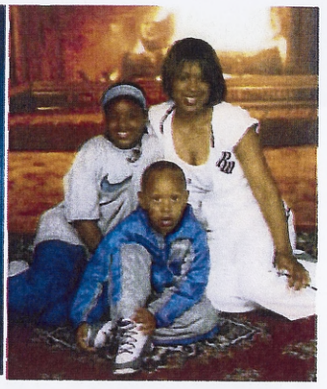
She will be missed immensely as she leaves to mourn a legacy of four generations—daughter Deborah Pruitt; son Kenneth Pruitt; son-in-law Simeon Lewis, Jr.; sister Lougenia Mathies Henson; granddaughters Rochaune Shepherd, Laura Pruitt, Brigitte Edington, Leah Allen and Lizza Lewis; Grandsons Kevin X, Daryl Pruitt, Larelle Aldridge, Sr. (wife Lacey), Kevien Pruitt, Sr., Rickey Pruitt, Jr., W. David Allen, Kevin Lewis, Shon Lewis and Tony Lewis. Her many great- and great-great grandchildren, especially those who affectionately called her "Me-Me": Kiara Vaughn, Frenchele (Franny) Erving, Elana Lewis, Nicole Lewis, Domanique Pruitt; Cordell Fields, Kevien Pruitt, Jr., Kelvion Pruitt, Kevion Pruitt, Marcell Guillory, Jr., LaVonte Aldridge (Jaslyn), Co'Ron Tate; great-great children, King Fuller, Taylin Aldridge and Trophy Pruitt.

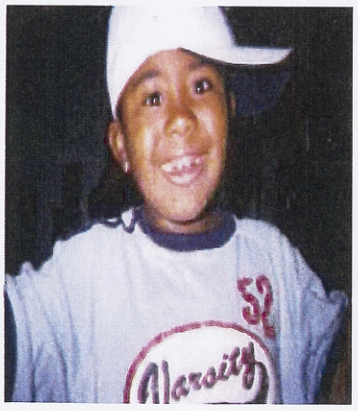
She will also be missed by special nieces and nephews: Clara Lynette Stephens, Bette H. and Thom Pruitt, Reverend Vernola Williams, Minister Camille Hudson (Damon Lamont), Linda Givens, Betty J. Pruitt-Cole, Patricia (Patsy) Mathies, Belinda Reason (Dock) and Joe and Yvonne Prince. Special adopted daughters and son: Mrs. Waldenia Fallins (Larry), Mrs. Dolores Hill (Levi) and Clifford Davis. Special adopted grandchildren Demitrius (affectionately known as "Pastor D") and La'Vonnda Burnett.

Mother Pruitt will also be missed by several adopted daughters, sons, a host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins, special friends, the Foothill Avenue families, as well as all who are connected to the Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church.

Precious Memories



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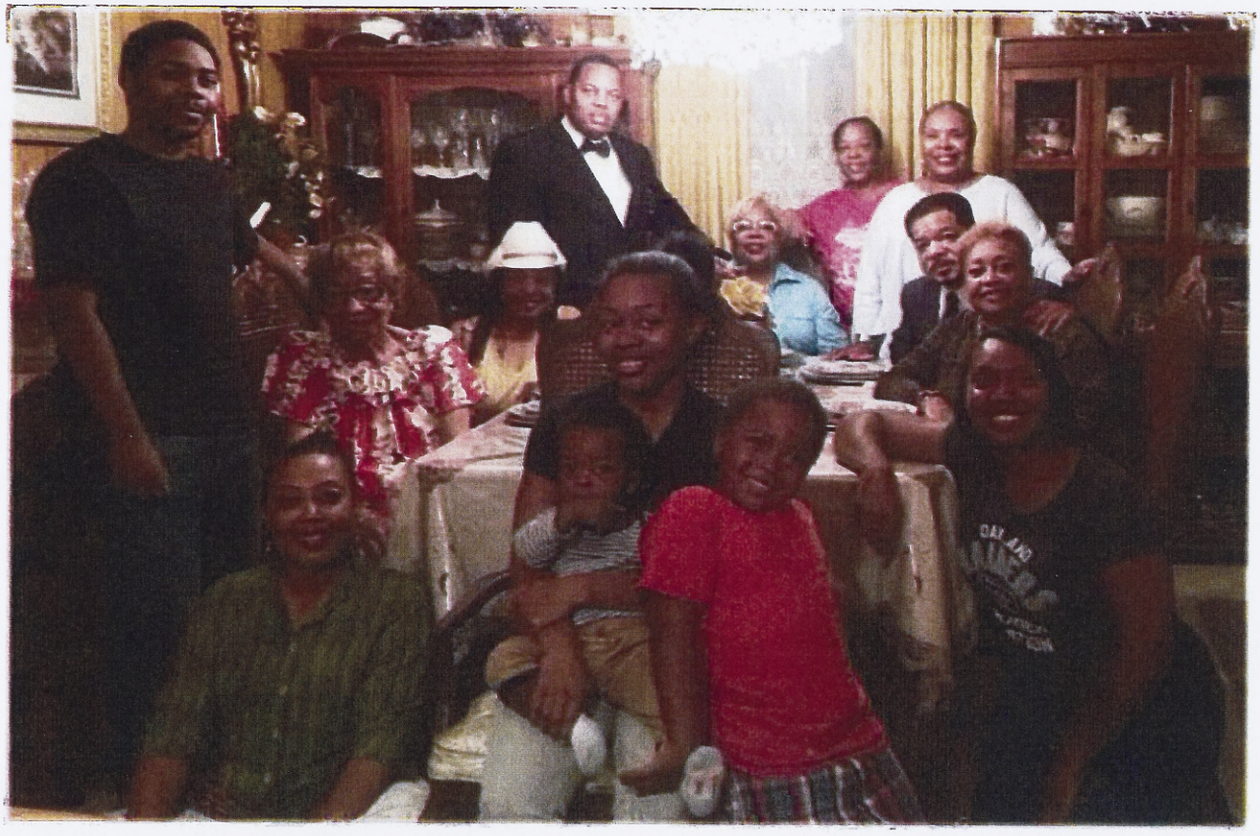
Varsity

Above are some of the amazing BMBC Divas – Mothers Maxine Miles-Hismith, Naomi Pruitt, Irene Thomas, Ethel Brown, Louisa Key and Gloria Dawson



This photo is a representation of FIVE generations during our awesome weekly Sunday dinner gathering. What a Blessing and Gift!!!

Active Pallbearers

Clifford Davis
Ray Ousborn
Melvin Davis
Virgil Weeks
Greg Legardy
Michael Williams

Honorary Pallbearers

BMBC Divas
Brazell Carter, M.D.
Philip Pendleton
Thom Pruitt
Simeon Lewis, Jr.
Joe Prince
Jimmy Stuart
Artie Moore
Lajari Pruitt
Kenneth Wills

Mother Naomi and Brother Ennis Pruitt together again!

Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name
~Psalm 103

Family's Acknowledgement

God heard your prayers for us, because He taught His children to care for one another. We saw you sitting there when you came to visit. The cards and calls were so very heartfelt. The food you brought was wonderful. We feel your sympathy and appreciate it all. On behalf of the Family of Mother Pruitt, we thank you for all you have done to comfort us as we go through this somber time. May Gods Bless you all!

Arrangements Entrusted to:

Rose Manor Funeral Service (FD254)
3331 MacDonald Avenue · Richmond, California 94805
510-235-9143

Program by Ro